

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) Fastening system for fastening a jewellery element (3) to an item of jewellery (12), comprising

a setting constructed on the item of jewellery (12) with a support part (1) and a fastening device (2)

and a jewellery element (3) releasably fastenable to the support part (1) of the setting by means of the fastening device (2),

the support part (1) comprising an aperture (4) which is capable of at least partially receiving the jewellery element (3),

the fastening device (2) being constructed on the support part (1) and comprising a leaf spring (21),

and the jewellery element (3) comprising a recess (5) which is constructed to work in cooperation with the fastening device (2) when the jewellery element (3) is located in the aperture (4) of the support part (1),

characterised in that wherein

the leaf spring (2₁) of the fastening device (2) is externally actuatable and comprises a latching element (2₂) constructed on the leaf spring (2₁),

and ~~that~~ the recess (5) of the jewellery element (3) is constructed to work in cooperation with the latching element (2₂) of the fastening device (2) when the jewellery element (3) is located in the aperture (4) of the support part (1).

2. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

an actuation element (10) is further provided on the fastening device (2) to facilitate an external actuation of the leaf spring (2₁).

3. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 2,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the actuation element (10) is constructed in the form of a lever which is arranged perpendicular to an extension direction of the latching element (2₂) on the fastening device (2).

4. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 2 ~~or 3~~,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

a notch (6) is provided in the support part (1) to guide a movement of the actuation element (10).

5. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims~~,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the support part (1) comprises a groove (11) and that the leaf spring (21) of the fastening device (2) is arranged in the groove (11) of the support part (1).

6. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 5,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the groove (11) of the support part (1) is of annular construction and surrounds the aperture (4) for the jewellery element (3), and

that the leaf spring (21) is of correspondingly curved construction.

7. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 6,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the leaf spring (2₁) of the fastening device (2) together with the latching element (2₂) is tangentially displaceable in the groove (11) of the support part (1) after a radial actuation of the leaf spring (2₁).

8. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1 ~~any of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the aperture (4) of the support part (1) is designed as a cylindrical bore.

9. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

in the support part (1) perpendicular to the aperture (4) for the jewellery element (3) a bore (9) is constructed in which the latching element (2₂) of the fastening device (2) projecting into the aperture (4) is guided.

10. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1 ~~any of the~~
~~preceding claims,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the jewellery element (3) is constructed as a setting for a precious stone or a pearl.

11. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1 ~~any of the~~
~~preceding claims,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the jewellery element (3) comprises a cylindrical portion (A) and a head (K) and is
constructed to fasten releasably at least one decorative element (7) comprising a
bore (8) to the support part (1).

12. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1 ~~any one of the~~
~~preceding claims,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the recess (5) provided in the jewellery element (3) is constructed in the form of an annular groove.

13. (Currently Amended) Fastening system according to claim 1 ~~any one of the preceding claims,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the jewellery element (3) comprises a chamfer (12) below the recess (5) which is constructed to effect a displacement of the latching element (2₂) constructed on the leaf spring (2₁) when the jewellery element (3) is inserted into the aperture (4) of the support part (1).

14. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery, comprising a support part (1), a fastening device (2) and a jewellery element (3) releasably fastened to the support part (1) by means of the fastening device (2),

the support part (1) comprising an aperture (4) which is capable of at least partially receiving the jewellery element (3),

the fastening device (2) being constructed on the support part (1) and comprising a leaf spring (2₁),

and the jewellery element (3) comprising a groove (5) which is constructed to work in cooperation with the fastening device (2) when the jewellery element (3) is located in the aperture (4) of the support part (1),

characterised in that wherein

the leaf spring (21) of the fastening device (2) is externally actuatable and comprises a latching element (22) constructed on the leaf spring (21),

and that the groove (5) of the jewellery element (3) is constructed to work in cooperation with the latching element (22) of the fastening device (2) when the jewellery element (3) is located in the aperture (4) of the support part (1).

15. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 14,

characterised in that wherein

the leaf spring (21) of the fastening device (2) is arranged on an outer surface of the support part (1).

16. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 15,

characterised in that wherein

the leaf spring (21) of the fastening device (2) is flush mounted in the outer surface of the support part (1).

17. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 14 ~~any one of claims 14 to 16,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the support part (1) is constructed in such a manner that an actuation of the leaf spring (21) is possible by reaching behind.

18. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 17,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the support part (1) in the region of the aperture (4) for the jewellery element (3) comprises a chamfer (16) which is covered by a side edge of the leaf spring (21).

19. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 14 ~~any one of claims 14 to 18,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the support part (1) is constructed as a jewellery ring and the leaf spring (21) of the fastening device (2) is of correspondingly annular construction.

20. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 14 ~~any one of claims 14 to 19,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the aperture (4) of the support part (1) is designed as a cylindrical bore.

21. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 14 ~~any one of claims 14 to 20,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

in the support part (1) perpendicular to the aperture (4) for the jewellery element (3) a bore (9) is constructed in which the latching element (22) of the fastening device (2) projecting into the aperture (4) is guided.

22. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 14 ~~any one of claims 14 to 21,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the jewellery element (3) is constructed as a setting for a precious stone or a pearl.

23. (Currently Amended) Item of jewellery according to claim 14 ~~any one of~~
~~claims 14 to 22,~~

~~characterised in that~~ wherein

the jewellery element (3) comprises a cylindrical portion (A) and a head (K) and is
constructed to fasten releasably at least one decorative element (7) comprising a
bore (8) to the support part (1).